

SENATE RESOLUTION 122

By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to recognize hydrocephalus awareness.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to recognize certain serious medical afflictions for which awareness needs to be raised; and

WHEREAS, hydrocephalus, the abnormal accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid within the ventricles of the brain, is one such medical condition. Hydrocephalus is a very serious malady which is diagnosed in more than six thousand infants each year; and

WHEREAS, hydrocephalus can occur at any age, can be congenital or acquired, and has no known cure, and the effects of hydrocephalus can be devastating. The build-up of cerebrospinal fluid within the brain, which creates pressure, can result in abnormal head enlargement, nausea, vomiting, difficulty walking, and cognitive challenges, among many other symptoms; and

WHEREAS, treatment of the disease often requires the placement of shunts to divert the cerebrospinal fluid to another part of the body or requires a surgical procedure known as an Endoscopic Third Ventriculostomy (ETV), which can treat the malady without the placement of a shunt. Although a promising treatment of hydrocephalus, ETV is not a viable option for many who suffer from the ailment; and

WHEREAS, hydrocephalus can be congenital, arising from aqueductal stenosis, a neural tube defect, arachnoid cysts, Dandy-Walker Syndrome, or Chiari malformations, or may be acquired, arising from intraventricular hemorrhage, meningitis, head injury, or brain tumors; and

WHEREAS, hydrocephalus is a very serious condition, and it is vitally important that people be made aware of its deleterious effect on human health; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize the importance of increasing hydrocephalus awareness and the need for improved treatment and a cure for this dangerous affliction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.